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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Arnim Franz-Burgholz et al.  
Serial No. :  
Filed :  
PCT NO. : PCT/EP2004/005093  
IFD : May 12, 2004  
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Confirmation No:  
Examiner :

Docket No. : 05-782  
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with Applicants' continued duty of disclosure, the following documents are brought to the Examiner's attention:

- (1) EP Patent No. 1 138 743;
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 5,496,582;
- (3) DE Patent No. 31 21 491;
- (4) International Publication No. WO 99/37836;
- (5) DE Patent No. 31 21 523;
- (6) DE Patent No. 41 26 051;
- (7) DE Patent No. 197 08 543; and
- (8) DE Patent No. 101 34 977.

A listing on Form PTO-1449 is enclosed along with a copy of the non-U.S. documents.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

Arnim Franz-Burgholz et al.


By



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Date: December 5, 2005

I, Rachel Piscitelli, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 on December 5, 2005.



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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

***(Use as many sheets as necessary)***

**Complete if Known**

Application Number

Filing Date

First Named Inventor

Arnim Franz-Burgholz et al.

### Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

05-782
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Sheet

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of

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## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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